

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00099 241740Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /074 W  
-----120968 241742Z /64

O R 241657Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6632  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0099

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA, US  
SUBJ: NAMIBIA - PIK BOTHA COMMENTS ON MCHENRY

REF: CAPE TOWN 0098

THERE FOLLOWS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF AN ARTICLE FROM  
THE FRONT PAGE OF CAPE TOWN'S AFTERNOON DAILY THE ARGUS  
OF JAN 24, GIVING SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER  
PIK BOTHA'S DENIAL THAT THE SAG IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RUMORS  
THAT AMB MCHENRY IS TO BE REPLACED AS THE USG'S  
CHIEF NAMIBIA NEGOTIATOR.

QUOTE: SUGGESTION NOT FROM SA -- BOTHA...

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR R.F. BOTHA SAID TODAY THAT  
SUGESTIONS THAT MR. DON MCHENRY , CHIEF UNITED STATES NEGOTIATOR  
IN THE "BIG FIVE" TALKS OVER SOUTH WEST AFRICA, WAS TO BE  
REPLACED HAD NOT EMANATED FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.

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MR. BOTHA SAID THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WAS NOT OF  
THE OPINION "THAT MR. MCHENRY'S REMOVAL WOULD FACILITATE THE  
ACHIEVEMENT OF A SOLUTION".

" WE HAVE NEVER PRESCRIBED TO OTHER COUNTRIES WHO SHOULD BE  
INCLUDED IN OR EXCLUDED FROM THEIR DELEGATIONS. WE SIMPLY  
DO NOT HAVE THE POWER TO DO SO". MR BOTHA SAID

" KNOWING HOW THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS IN AMERICA FUNCTIONS  
IT WILL BE TOTALLY WRONG TO ASSUME THAT POLICY DECISIONS IN  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARE DICTATED BY ONE MAN.

" INDEED, IT IS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE EVEN TO SUGGEST THAT.

"DECISIONS MORE FAVORABLE TO SOUTH AFRICA COULD BE ACHIEVED  
BY ENDEAVORING TO SHORT-CIRCUIT AN INCUMBENT IN SUCH AN  
IMPORTANT POST AS THE ONE HELD BY MR. MCHENRY.

" SOUTH AFRICA IS IN ANY EVENT NOT INFLUENCED BY PERSONAL  
ATTITUDES OF ANY PARTICULAR PERSON IN INTERNATIONAL  
NEGOTIATIONS.

"FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OVER MANY YEARS, I HAVE LEARNED THAT  
NEGOTIATORS STRICTLY FOLLOW THEIR GOVERNMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS.  
THE SAME APPLIES TO US," MR BOTHA SAID. END QUOTE.

BOWDLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL RECALL, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** PDEV, SOPN, SF, WA, US, (MCHENRY, DON)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014